

Victor schools add 'Parent' tab online

The Victor Central School District and the town of Victor have been working hard this summer to update their online presences.

The VCSD launched a brand-new website about three weeks ago, just in time for the new school year. A little more than a year in the making, the new site is designed to make it easier to find information.

"The primary audience for our website is parents," said David Henderson, the district's director of computer services. "We were hearing from a lot of parents that there were times they got to our old website and found it difficult to find information" about things like attendance, school calendars, and school flyers.

"That information was kind of scattered," Henderson said. "We pulled it together in one single spot." A convenient "Parent" tab at the top of the page is now one of the first things people see when they visit the new website.

The new site is also now ADA-compliant and features some updated technology for ease of use.

"We're pretty proud of it," Henderson said. "It has a nice look and feel. It gives us a chance to highlight some of the things the school district does great."

The new website is at victorschools.org. With the update, district residents are reminded that they'll need to re-register for building and district newsletters.

The town of Victor also has a new, much more userfriendly website, created in partnership with the village of Victor.

With a simple scroll, website visitors can now find direct links to various town and village departments, current news, Victor's Facebook feed, town photos and maps, employment opportunities and more.

As a companion to the new website, the town of Victor has also introduced a mobile app, allowing hand-held access to everything the website has to offer.

In addition, the town is offering a mobile app called Nextdoor. It's described on the website as a "neighborhood social network," used to provide subscribers with hyper-local news and information affecting their neighborhoods.

The town's digital upgrade has been spearheaded by Victor Town Board member Dave Tantillo, who saw a need when he joined the board in 2012.

"In this day and age when people want to get information quickly and demographics were changing to a lot of young families, it made sense to take a look at our website and update it," Tantillo said.

"We've come light-years (in our ability) to do as many things as we can to make information as readily available to our residents. I like to think we're very progressive with regards to that," he added.

"A well-informed resident is a good resident."

Information about Nextdoor and the town's new mobile platform can be found at victoryny.org.

Callanan 5K a Success

Here's a quick update on an event I wrote about a few weeks ago, the Mark A. Callanan Memorial Run. The event was held Aug. 4 to honor the memory of Fairport man who died suddenly two years ago, just a month

before his wedding day.

The event was a great success, thanks to the efforts of almost two dozen grassroots committee members and volunteers, several corporate sponsors, and the dedication of 150 runners and walkers, who braved some uncomfortable heat and humidity. It raised about \$15,000, which will be used to create a scholarship in Callanan's name at the State University College at Geneseo, where he attended college.

Donations are still being collected. For more information, go to markacallanan.com.

Pick of the Week The town of Pittsford will introduce its newly renovated, expanded and restored Paul M. Spiegel Community Center, 35 Lincoln Ave., at grand opening ceremonies on Saturday, Aug. 25.

The celebration will begin with a ribbon cutting and rededication at 12:30 p.m., followed from 1 to 4 p.m. by a community open house with facility tours, program demonstrations, historical information, family activities, raffles, giveaways and refreshments.

The project has been in the planning stages for two years, and the building itself has been closed for almost a year during construction.

For more information, go to townofpittsford.org.



East Extra

Missy Rosenberry Guest columnist



A U.S. Marine leads runners and walkers to the start line of the Mark A. Callanan Memorial 5K earlier this month, carrying the flag presented to family members when Callanan was buried at Arlington National Cemetery. M. RENFRO